

A B S T R A C T

The invention relates to apparatus for supporting a preform manufactured in an installation for manufacturing 5 or building up preforms having supporting cores, said installation including at least rotation means having a horizontal axis of rotation and two mounting points between which the supporting core of the preform to be manufactured or built up is mounted, plasma-torch and 10 material-supply means disposed radially relative to said supporting core and being mounted to move in axial translation relative to and parallel to the supporting core so as to make said preform around said supporting core, said apparatus being wherein it includes controlled 15 support means constituting additional localized abutment points between said mounting points for said preform being manufactured or built up.